SANDLER, REIFF & YOUNG, P.C.

50 E STREET, S.E., SUITE 300 WASHINGTON, DC 20003

JOSEPH E. SANDLER sandler@sandlerreiff.com NEIL P. REIFF reiff@sandlerreiff.com

COUNSEL:

JOHN HARDIN YOUNG young@sandlerreiff com

March 18, 2004

Via Facsimile and First Class Mail

Peter Blumberg, Esq. Office of General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 5183—Democratic National Committee

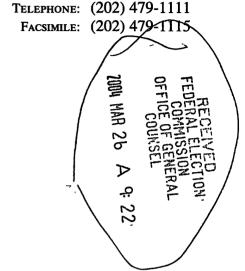
Dear Mr. Blumberg:

On March 16, 2004, we received the letter notifying us that the Commission had found reason to believe against our clients, the Democratic National Committee and its treasurer, in the above-referenced MUR.

The letter offers to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a conciliation agreement. The letter indicates that, if respondent DNC declines that offer, the DNC must submit its brief on probable cause within fifteen days.

The DNC respectfully requests an extension of twenty (20) days in which to respond to the Commission's letter. The DNC was notified of this complaint in March 2001 and has not been contacted by the Commission with respect to this MUR in the nearly three years since then. In order to determine whether to enter into conciliation, or to respond in some other fashion, it will be necessary for the DNC to review the record of this matter, which involves events that took place four years ago.

For these reasons, the DNC respectfully requests an extension of 20 days. If this request is granted, the DNC's offer to enter pre-probable cause conciliation, or other submission, would be due on April 20, 2004.



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Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Soseph E. Sandler

Attorneys for Respondent Democratic National Committee and Andrew Tobias, as Treasurer